

Claims

- [c1] 1. A vehicle trim panel, comprising:
 - an inner panel having an inner surface, an outer surface, and a perimeter edge generally extending around the inner and outer surfaces, the inner panel configured for attachment to a vehicle body; and
 - a flexible outer panel covering at least a portion of the outer surface of the inner panel and extending beyond the perimeter edge, the flexible outer panel configured to contact the vehicle body to reduce a gap between the inner panel and the vehicle body.
- [c2] 2. The vehicle trim panel of claim 1, wherein the inner panel and the flexible outer panel are molded together.
- [c3] 3. The vehicle trim panel of claim 2, wherein the inner panel is molded from one of thermoplastic olefin (TPO) or polypropylene (PP).
- [c4] 4. The vehicle trim panel of claim 2, wherein the flexible outer panel is molded from a thermoplastic elastomer (TPE).
- [c5] 5. The vehicle trim panel of claim 2, wherein the inner panel and the flexible outer panel are molded together

using a two shot molding process.

- [c6] 6. A vehicle, comprising:
 - a vehicle body;
 - a vehicle trim panel, the vehicle trim panel including an inner surface, an outer surface, and a perimeter edge generally extending around the inner and outer surfaces, the inner panel configured for attachment to the vehicle body; and
 - a flexible outer panel covering at least a portion of the outer surface of the inner panel and extending beyond the perimeter edge, the flexible outer panel configured to contact the vehicle body to reduce a gap between the inner panel and the vehicle body.
- [c7] 7. The vehicle claim 6, wherein the inner panel and the flexible outer panel are molded together.
- [c8] 8. The vehicle of claim 7, wherein the inner panel is molded from one of thermoplastic olefin (TPO) or polypropylene (PP).
- [c9] 9. The vehicle trim claim 7, wherein the flexible outer panel is molded from a thermoplastic elastomer (TPE).
- [c10] 10. The vehicle trim panel of claim 7, wherein the inner panel and the flexible outer panel are molded together using a two shot molding process.

[c11] 11. A method of reducing a gap between a vehicle trim panel having an outer surface and a vehicle body comprising:

depositing a flexible covering over at least a portion of the outer surface of the vehicle trim panel so that a portion of the flexible covering extends beyond an outer edge of the vehicle trim panel; and

positioning the portion of the flexible covering that extends beyond the outer edge of the vehicle trim panel against the vehicle body to reduce the gap between the vehicle trim panel and the vehicle body.

[c12] 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the flexible outer panel is deposited in a molding process.

[c13] 13. The method of claim 11 further comprising, molding the inner panel from one of thermoplastic olefin (TPO) or polypropylene (PP).

[c14] 14. The method of claim 11 further comprising, molding the flexible outer panel from a thermoplastic elastomer (TPE).

[c15] 15. The method of claim 11 further comprising, molding the inner panel and the flexible outer panel together in a two shot molding process.